



AUG 03 2000

In the Claims:

Please amend the claims as follows:

TECH CENTER 1600/2920

1. (Twice Amended) A method for the bioproduction of a C₆ to C₂₂ mono- [and] or di-carboxylic [acids] acid comprising

a) contacting, under aerobic conditions, [the] a transformed *Pichia pastoris* [of Claim 3] characterized by a genetically-engineered alkane hydroxylating activity comprising i) at least one copy of a foreign gene encoding cytochrome P450 monooxygenase; and, optionally,

ii) at least one copy of a foreign gene encoding cytochrome P450 reductase, each gene operably linked to a *Pichia pastoris* Aox1 promoter such that alkane hydroxylating activity is enhanced upon contact with at least one C₆ to C₂₂ straight chain hydrocarbon,

with at least one C₆ to C₂₂ straight chain hydrocarbon; and

b) recovering the C₆ to C₂₂ mono- [and] or di-carboxylic [acids] acid.

2. (Amended) The method of Claim 1, wherein the transformed *Pichia pastoris* is strain SW 64/65 identified as ATCC 74409; the at least one C₆ to C₂₂ straight chain hydrocarbon is dodecane; and the [product] recovered C₆ to C₂₂ mono- or di-carboxylic acid is dodecanedioic acid.

REMARKS

Claims 1-23 and 25-27 are pending in this application. Claims 1 and 2 have been amended to more particularly point out and distinctly claim that which Applicants regard as their invention and to place the claims in condition for allowance. Support for the amended claims is found within the claims as originally filed and within the Specification. No new matter has been added. All of the claims under consideration, as amended, are presented as an Appendix attached hereto.

Summary of the Examiner's Final Office Action

The Final Office Action dated March 30, 2000 contains the following objection and rejections requiring a response:

- (1) Objection to Claim 1;
- (2) Rejection of Claim 16 Under Section 102(b) as being allegedly anticipated by Masuda *et al.* (1995);
- (3) Rejection of Claims 8-23 and 27 Under Section 103(a) as being allegedly unpatentable over Picataggio *et al.* (5,254,466), in view of Picataggio *et al.* (1992), Masuda *et al.* (1995), Zimmer *et al.*, and Schunck *et al.* (1988);
- (4) Rejection of Claims 3-6 Under Section 103(a) as being allegedly unpatentable over Cregg *et al.*, in view of Takagi *et al.*, Takagi (Ohkuma *et al.*), and Ohkuma;